UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/52/628/Add.7
11 December 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-second session
Agenda item 97 (g)

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

## Report of the Second Committee (Part VIII)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Rae Kwon CHUNG (Republic of Korea)

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 97 (see A/52/628, para. 2). Action on sub-item (g) was taken at the 38th and 50th meetings, on 12 November and 9 December 1997. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/52/SR.38 and 50).

## II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS A/C.2/52/L.17 AND REV.1

2. At the 38th meeting, on 12 November, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Women in development" (A/C.2/52/L.17) which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 50/104 of 20 December 1995 and all other relevant Assembly resolutions on the integration of women in development, and also the resolutions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women on the integration of women in development,

* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/52/628 and addenda.

"Reaffirming that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

"Recognizing the significant contribution that women make to economic activities and the major force that they represent for change and development in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas, such as agriculture, industry and services,

"Aware that the continued discrimination against women, their continued lack of equal access to education and training and credit facilities, and their lack of control over land, capital, technology and other areas of production impede their full contribution to, and opportunity to benefit from, development,

"Recognizing that discrimination in education and training, hiring, remuneration, promotion and horizontal mobility practices continues to restrict employment, economic, professional and other kinds of mobility for women striving to reach their potential,

"Reaffirming that investing in the development of women and girls has multiplier effects on productivity, efficiency and sustained economic growth,

"Recognizing that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries, particularly in Africa and the least developed countries, have resulted in the rapid feminization of poverty, especially in rural areas and among female-headed households,

"Reaffirming that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace, and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

"Recognizing the adverse impact of structural adjustment programmes on women, especially in terms of cutbacks in social services, education and health and the removal of subsidies for food and fuel,

"Aware that, although globalization and liberalization processes have created employment opportunities in some countries, they have also created risks and increased the marginalization of developing countries, particularly with regard to women,

"Recognizing that the informal sector is a major source of entrepreneurship and employment for women in developing countries and that its important contribution should be included in labour-force statistics and standard national accounts,

"Expressing its concern about the virtual absence or poor representation of women in economic decision-making, including the formulation of monetary and fiscal policies and rules governing pay,

"Emphasizing the promotion of programmes aimed at financial intermediation with a view to facilitating and increasing rural women's access to credit and to agricultural inputs and implements and, in particular, to easing collateral requirements for access to credit by women,

"Stressing that the lack of a family-friendly work environment, including appropriate and affordable childcare and inflexible working hours, further prevents women from achieving their full potential,

"Stressing that neglecting a gender perspective in policy formulation and implementation exacerbates the feminization of poverty and economic inefficiency and has a high social cost,

"Noting the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, particularly the funds and programmes, in facilitating the advancement of women in development,

"1. Reaffirms the urgent implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action[1] and the relevant provisions contained in the outcomes of all other major United Nations conferences and summits;

"2. Stresses that a favourable and conducive international and national economic and financial environment and a positive investment climate are necessary for the effective integration of women in development;

"3. Calls upon all Governments and all actors of society to implement the commitment made in Beijing to create an enabling environment through, inter alia, removing discriminatory barriers and ensuring the full and equal participation of women in economic activities through, inter alia, the adoption of gender-sensitive policies and legal measures and the provision of other necessary structures;

"4. Also stresses the importance of developing national strategies for promoting sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities to generate income among disadvantaged women and women living in poverty;

"5. Urges Governments to develop and promote methodologies for incorporating a gender perspective into all aspects of policy-making, including economic policy-making;

"6. Stresses the need to ensure full and equal access for girls and women to education, vocational training and retraining programmes for improving their employment opportunities;

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[1] Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

"7. Urges all Governments to ensure women's equal rights and access to economic resources and to increase women's access to credit by instituting innovative lending practices, including practices that integrate credit with services and training for women and that provide flexible credit facilities to women, in particular rural women, women in the informal sector, young women and women who lack access to traditional sources of collateral;

"8. Invites Governments to undertake legislation and administrative reforms to give women equal rights with men to economic resources, including access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, credit, inheritance, natural resources and appropriate new technology;

"9. Requests Governments to ensure that women's priorities are included in public investment programmes for economic infrastructure, such as water and sanitation supply, electrification and energy conservation, transport and road construction and to promote greater involvement of women beneficiaries at the project-planning and implementation stages to ensure their access to jobs and contracts;

"10. Urges Governments to promote and strengthen micro-enterprises, new small businesses, cooperative enterprises and expanded markets and other employment opportunities; to facilitate, where appropriate, the transition from the informal to the formal sector, especially in rural areas; to provide outreach programmes to inform low-income and poor women, particularly in rural and remote areas, of opportunities for market and technology access; and to provide women with assistance in taking advantage of such opportunities;

"11. Calls upon Governments to develop strategies aimed at promoting sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities for income-generation among disadvantaged women and women living in poverty;

"12. Calls upon Governments to ensure, through legislation, family-friendly work environments and to promote the facilitation of breast-feeding for working mothers;

"13. Urges the international community, the United Nations system and other relevant organizations to give priority to supporting the efforts of developing countries to ensure the full and effective participation of women in deciding and implementing development strategies, through, inter alia, women's increased access to health care, capital, education, training and technology, and wider participation in decision-making;

"14. Urges multilateral donors, international financial institutions and regional development banks to review and implement policies in support of national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reach women, in particular those in rural and remote areas;

"15. Calls upon the United Nations system to provide adequate resources for operational activities in order to support developing

countries in their efforts to integrate gender concerns into national programmes and to implement those programmes;

"16. Requests the United Nations development system to work towards establishing a more coherent approach to its support for women's income-generating activities, in particular credit schemes;

"17. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session a sub-item entitled 'Effective mobilization and integration of women in development';

"18. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to it at its fifty-fourth session on the outcome of the implementation of the present resolution and to cover in his report the impact of the globalization and liberalization processes on the integration of women in development and the implementation of operational activities for development of the United Nations system in enhancing the participation of women in national development programmes."

3. At the 50th meeting, on 9 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Women in development" (A/C.2/52/L.17/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.17.

4. At the same meeting, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Hans-Peter Glanzer (Austria) made a statement (see A/C.2/52/SR.50).

5. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), the United States of America, the United Republic of Tanzania (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and the Russian Federation (see A/C.2/52/SR.50).

6. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United States of America, the Committee voted on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.17/Rev.1, which was adopted by a recorded vote of 153 to 2 (see para. 8). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia,

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining: None.

7. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Namibia, Morocco (also on behalf of Jordan, Saudi Arabia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Yemen, Sudan, Oman, Bahrain, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Pakistan, Qatar, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates and Mauritania), the Syrian Arab Republic and Australia (see A/C.2/52/SR.50).

## III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

### Women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 50/104 of 20 December 1995 and all other relevant Assembly resolutions on the integration of women in development, and also the resolutions and the agreed conclusions[2] adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women on the integration of women in development,

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[2] Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 7 (E/1997/27), chap. I, sect. C.1, agreed conclusions 1997/3.

Reaffirming the Beijing Platform for Action[3] and the outcome of recent major United Nations conferences and summits,

Reaffirming that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Recognizing the significant contribution that women make to economic activities and the major force that they represent for change and development in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas, such as agriculture, industry and services,

Concerned that the continued discrimination against women, the denial or lack of equal rights and access to education, training and credit facilities, and the lack of control over land, capital, technology and other areas of production impede their full and equal contribution to and equal opportunity to benefit from development,

Recognizing that discrimination in education and training, hiring, remuneration and promotion, and horizontal mobility practices continue to restrict employment, economic, professional and other opportunities and mobility for women and impede women in achieving their full potential,

Reaffirming that investing in the development of women and girls has multiplier effects on productivity, efficiency and sustained economic growth,

Recognizing that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries, particularly those in Africa and the least developed countries, have resulted in the acceleration of the feminization of poverty, especially in rural areas and among female-headed households,

Reaffirming that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace, and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing the continued need to review the impact of structural adjustment programmes in order to reduce any adverse impact on women, especially in terms of cut-backs in social services, education and health and the removal of subsidies on food and fuel,

Aware that although globalization and liberalization processes have created employment opportunities for women in some countries, they have also created risks to and marginalization of women in developing countries,

Recognizing that the informal sector is a major source of entrepreneurship and employment for women in developing countries and that data collection on its important contribution should be improved,

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[3] Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Expressing its concern about the poor representation of women in economic decision-making, including in the formulation of monetary and fiscal policies as well as rules governing pay,

Emphasizing the promotion of programmes aimed at financial intermediation with a view to ensuring rural women's equal access to credit and to agricultural inputs and implements and, in particular, to easing collateral requirements for access to credit by women,

Stressing the need for a family-friendly work environment, including appropriate working hours, affordable childcare and flexible working hours, and emphasizing the principle of shared responsibility between women and men for the achievement of gender equality,

Stressing that neglecting a gender perspective in policy formulation and implementation exacerbates the feminization of poverty and economic inefficiency and has a high social cost,

Noting the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, particularly the funds and programmes, including the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, in facilitating the advancement of women in development,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General and the recommendations contained therein;[4]

2. Calls for the urgent implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action[3] and the relevant provisions contained in the outcome of all other major United Nations conferences and summits;

3. Stresses that a favourable and conducive international and national economic and financial, political, social and legal environment and a positive investment climate are necessary for the effective integration of women in development;

4. Reiterates its call to all Governments and all actors of society to implement the commitment made at Beijing to create an enabling environment through, inter alia, removing discriminatory barriers and ensuring the full and equal participation of women in economic activities through, inter alia, the adoption of gender-sensitive policies and legal measures and the provision of other necessary structures;

5. Also stresses the importance of developing national strategies for promoting sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities to generate income among disadvantaged women and women living in poverty;

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[4] A/52/345.

6. Urges Governments to develop and promote methodologies for mainstreaming a gender perspective into all aspects of policy-making, including economic policy-making;

7. Stresses the need to ensure that women and girls have full and equal access to all levels of education, vocational training and retraining programmes in order to improve their employment opportunities;

8. Urges all Governments to ensure women's equal rights with men and access to economic resources, and to increase women's access to credit by instituting innovative lending practices, including practices that integrate credit with services and training for women and that provide flexible credit facilities to women, in particular rural women, women in the informal sector, young women and women who lack access to traditional sources of collateral;

9. Invites Governments to undertake legislation to ensure that women have equal access to and control over land, unmediated by male relatives, in order to end land rights discrimination, that women are accorded secure use of rights and are fully represented in the decision-making bodies that allocate land and other forms of property, credit, information and new technologies, and, in the implementation of the Beijing Platform of Action, that women are accorded full and equal rights to own land and other property, inter alia, through inheritance, that land reform programmes begin by acknowledging the equality of women's rights to land and that other measures are taken to increase land availability to poor women and men;

10. Requests Governments to ensure that women's priorities are included in, and that women fully participate in, decisions on public investment programmes for economic infrastructure, technology, water supply and sanitation, electrification and energy conservation, transport and road construction, and to promote greater involvement of women beneficiaries at the project planning and implementation stages to ensure their access to jobs and contracts;

11. Urges Governments to promote and strengthen micro-enterprises, new small businesses, cooperative enterprises, expanded markets and other employment opportunities; to facilitate, where appropriate, the transition from the informal to the formal sector, especially in rural areas; to provide outreach programmes to inform low-income and poor women, particularly in rural and remote areas, of opportunities for market and technology access; and to provide women with assistance in taking advantage of such opportunities;

12. Calls upon Governments to promote, inter alia, through legislation, family-friendly and gender-sensitive work environments and also to promote the facilitation of breastfeeding for working mothers;

13. Urges the international community, the United Nations system and other relevant organizations to give priority to assisting the efforts of developing countries to ensure the full and effective participation of women in deciding and implementing development strategies, through, inter alia, women's increased access to health care, capital, education, training and technology, and full and equal participation in decision-making;

14. Urges multilateral donors, international financial institutions and regional development banks to review and implement policies in support of national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reach women, in particular women in rural and remote areas;

15. Calls upon the United Nations system to support developing countries in their efforts to integrate gender concerns into national programmes and to implement those programmes, including by providing adequate resources for operational activities for development;

16. Calls upon the United Nations system to integrate gender mainstreaming into all its programmes and policies, including in the integrated follow-up of United Nations conferences, in accordance with the agreed conclusions on gender mainstreaming adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1997;[5]

17. Requests the United Nations development system to continue working towards establishing a more coherent approach to its support for women's income-generating activities, in particular credit schemes;

18. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "Women in development";

19. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session a report on the outcome of the implementation of the present resolution, including the impact of the globalization and liberalization processes on the integration of women in development, the implementation of operational activities for development of the United Nations system in enhancing the participation of women in national development programmes and the gender mainstreaming of United Nations programmes and policies.

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[5] A/52/3, chap. IV, para. 4.

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/52/628/Add.8
10 December 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-second session
Agenda item 97 (h)

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

## Report of the Second Committee (Part IX)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Rae Kwon CHUNG (Republic of Korea)

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 97 (see A/52/628, para. 2). Action was taken on sub-item (h) at the 43rd and 50th meetings, on 19 November and 9 December 1997. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/52/SR.43 and 50).

## II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS A/C.2/52/L.31 AND A/C.2/52/L.49

2. At the 43rd meeting, on 19 November, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Developing human resources for development" (A/C.2/52/L.31), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming its resolutions 50/105 of 20 December 1995, 48/205 of 21 December 1993, 48/143 of 17 December 1991 and 45/191 of 21 December 1990 as well as the relevant sections of the Agenda for Development,[1]

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* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/52/628 and addenda.

[1] See A/51/45.

*Recognizing that people are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development, that the development of human resources is an essential component in the achievement of sustainable development and that a focus on human resources development will ultimately strengthen capabilities and will equip people with the competencies to function effectively,

*Recognizing also that there is a need to integrate human resources development into comprehensive strategies that mainstream a gender perspective, taking into account the needs of all people, in particular, the needs of women,

*Stressing that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development and that there is the need for adequate resources from the international community to enhance the capacity of the Governments of developing countries to promote human resources development in pursuit of their national programmes, plans and strategies for development,

*Stressing also that there is a need for a supportive and favourable international economic environment that will enhance human resources development in developing countries and promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

*Recognizing that, while economic reforms and structural adjustment programmes are intended to promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development, elements of such programmes may have an adverse impact on human resources development and also that there is a need to take action, in the formulation of these programmes, to mitigate any negative effects,

*Recognizing also the vital role of South-South cooperation in supporting national efforts for human resources development,

*Emphasizing the continued need for coordination and integration among the organs and organizations of the United Nations system in assisting developing countries to foster the development of their human resources, especially that of the least developed and most vulnerable, and for the United Nations to continue to give priority to human resources development in developing countries,

*Recognizing the importance accorded to the human component of development in the declarations and programmes of action adopted at all the major United Nations conferences and summits since 1990,

*1. Takes note of the Secretary-General's note[2] on the implementation of resolution 50/105;

*2. Emphasizes that, in the development of human resources, an overall, well conceived and integrated approach which mainstreams a gender

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[2] A/52/540.

perspective and takes into account the needs of all people should be adopted, incorporating such vital areas as population, health, nutrition, water, sanitation, housing, communications, education and training, and science and technology, and taking into account the need to create more opportunities for employment, in an environment that guarantees political freedom, popular participation, respect for human rights, justice and equity, all of which are essential for enhancing human capacity to meet the challenge of development;

"3. Encourages all countries to apply the requisite policies to ensure the development of their human resources, through education and training and by seeking, where possible, to increase receptivity to technological innovations, including those in the field of information and communication technologies;

"4. Emphasizes the need to ensure the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of national policies to promote human resources development;

"5. Acknowledges the efforts of developing countries in promoting human resources development and, in this regard, emphasizes the need for international cooperation to advance human resources development and the need for concerted efforts to support the efforts of developing countries, especially in Africa, the least developed countries and small island developing States, to develop their human resources;

"6. Emphasizes that human resources development and institution-building can be promoted through South-South cooperation, and calls upon countries to take action in this regard;

"7. Calls upon international financial institutions and other international organizations to support the objectives of human resources development and to integrate them into their policies, programmes and operations;

"8. Emphasizes that structural adjustment programmes should include and strengthen social development goals which include human resources development and also emphasizes that Governments and relevant multilateral financial institutions should develop policies to reduce the negative effects of those programmes and to improve their positive impact, bearing in mind that human resources development associated with economic restructuring should be considered complementary strategies;

"9. Calls upon the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to ensure the coordination of activities in support of national and regional action in the area of human resources development and capacity-building and to strengthen the human resources development aspect of their development activities;

"10. Requests the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session an assessment of the effectiveness of the contribution of operational activities to human

resource development and requests further that the report include a brief review of the experience of the United Nations system in addressing the issue of human resources development, with a view to identifying possible new approaches in order to enhance the delivery capacity of the United Nations system;

"11. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session, under the item entitled 'Sustainable development and international economic cooperation', the sub-item entitled 'Human resources development'."

3. At the 50th meeting, on 9 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Hans-Peter Glanzer (Austria), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Developing human resources for development" (A/C.2/52/L.49) submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.31. In introducing the draft resolution, the Vice-Chairman proposed the deletion of the square brackets around the phrase "sustained economic growth and sustainable development" in the fifth preambular paragraph.

4. Statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America and the United Republic of Tanzania (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) (see A/C.2/52/SR.50). The representative of the United States requested a recorded vote on the draft resolution.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.49 by a recorded vote of 154 to 2 (see para. 7). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South

Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining: None.

6. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), the Russian Federation, Jamaica, Australia, China and the United Republic of Tanzania (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77) (see A/C.2/52/SR.50).

## III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

7. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

### Developing human resources for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 50/105 of 20 December 1995, 48/205 of 21 December 1993, 48/143 of 17 December 1991 and 45/191 of 21 December 1990 as well as the relevant sections of the Agenda for Development,[1]

Recognizing that people are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development and that the development of human resources is an essential component in the achievement of sustainable development and stressing that effective human resources development should strengthen people's capabilities and competencies and enlarge the choices available to them in developing their lives and fulfilling their aspirations so as to reach total human development,

Recognizing also that there is a need to integrate human resources development into comprehensive strategies that mainstream a gender perspective, taking into account the needs of all people, in particular, the needs of women and the girl child,

Stressing that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development and that there is a need for continued support from the international community to complement

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[1] Resolution 51/240, annex.

the efforts to developing Governments to promote human resource development in pursuit of their national programmes, plans and strategies for development,

Stressing also that there is a need for a supportive and favourable national and international economic environment that will enhance human resources development in developing countries and promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Recognizing that economic reforms and structural adjustment programmes are aimed at benefiting those countries which undertake them but that these programmes can also affect the capacity of Governments to implement appropriate policies that promote human resources development, and that there is a need, in the formulation of these programmes, to continue to integrate measures that mitigate such an effect,

Recognizing also the vital role of South-South cooperation in supporting national efforts at human resources development,

Emphasizing the continued need for coordination and integration among the organs and organizations of the United Nations system in assisting developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, to foster the development of their human resources, especially those of the most vulnerable, and for the United Nations to continue to give priority to human resources development in developing countries,

Recognizing the importance accorded to the human component of development in the declarations and programmes of action adopted at all the major United Nations conferences and summits since 1990,

1. Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General on developing human resources for development;[4]

2. Emphasizes that, in the development of human resources, an overall, well conceived and integrated approach which mainstreams a gender perspective and takes into account the needs of all people should be adopted, incorporating such vital areas as population, health, nutrition, water, sanitation, housing, communications, education and training, and science and technology, as well as taking into account the need to create more opportunities for employment, in an environment that guarantees political freedom, popular participation, respect for human rights, justice and equity, all of which are essential for enhancing human capacity to meet the challenge of development;

3. Encourages all countries to apply the requisite policies to ensure the development of their human resources, through education and training and by seeking, where possible, to increase receptivity to technological innovations, including those in the field of information technology;

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[4] A/52/540.

4. Emphasizes the need to ensure the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of national policies to promote human resources development;

5. Acknowledges the efforts of developing countries in promoting human resources development and, in this regard, emphasizes the need for international cooperation to advance human resources development and the need for concerted efforts to support the efforts of developing countries, especially in Africa and the least developed countries to develop their human resources;

6. Encourages all countries to accord priority, in particular in national budgets, to human resources development in the context of the adoption of economic and social policies;

7. Emphasizes also that human resources development and institution-building can be promoted through South-South cooperation and calls upon countries to take action in this regard;

8. Invites international organizations, including other international financial institutions, to continue to give priority to supporting the objectives of human resources development and to integrating them into their policies, programmes and operations;

9. Emphasizes that structural adjustment programmes should support social development goals, in particular the eradication of poverty, the promotion of full and productive employment, and the enhancement of social integration with due regard to the implementation of sound economic policies;

10. Calls upon the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in accordance with their mandates, work programmes and priorities, to coordinate effectively their activities in support of national and regional action in the area of human resources development and capacity-building, both among themselves and with other development partners, and to strengthen the impact of their development activities on human resources development;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session an assessment of the effectiveness of the contribution made by the United Nations system to advance human resources development through its operational activities, and make recommendations to further enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of its contribution to human resources development, including the identification of possible new approaches that will enhance their impact;

12. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", the sub-item entitled "Human resources development".

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UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/52/628/Add.9
2 December 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-second session
Agenda item 97 (i)

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee (Part X)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Rae Kwon CHUNG (Republic of Korea)

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 97 (see A/52/628, para. 2). Action on sub-item (i) was taken at the 22nd and 46th meetings, on 29 October and 2 December 1997. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/52/SR.22 and 46).

## II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS A/C.2/52/L.10 and A/C.2/52/L.33

2. At the 22nd meeting, on 29 October, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Cultural development" (A/C.2/52/L.10), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 41/187 of 8 December 1986, in which it proclaimed the period 1988-1997 the World Decade for Cultural Development; 46/158 of 19 December 1991, in which it requested the Secretary-General to cooperate with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in establishing an independent World

* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/52/628 and addenda.

Commission on Culture and Development, and expected the World Commission to submit its final report to the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and to the United Nations General Assembly no later than three years after it began its work; and 51/179 of 16 December 1996, concerning the report of the World Commission,

"Taking note of the fact that public opinion throughout the world, as well as Governments and non-governmental organizations, has become much more sensitive to the need for better integration of the cultural dimension into the entire development process, in particular as highlighted by Our Creative Diversity,[1] the report of the World Commission,

"Recognizing that this awareness of the central importance of culture is, nevertheless, still insufficiently present in development policy and practice,

"Acknowledging with satisfaction the active participation of Member States, United Nations bodies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals in the implementation of projects of regional or interregional scope, aiming at the promotion of the objectives of the Decade, and in the work of the World Commission and its follow-up,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on progress of the World Decade for Cultural Development during the period 1994-1997;[2]

"2. Invites all Member States, intergovernmental bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, and non-governmental organizations:

"(a) To ensure that the lessons and experiences gained and the momentum generated through the World Decade as well as the World Commission on Culture and Development are reflected in all their development strategies;

"(b) To intensify their efforts to integrate cultural factors into their development programmes and projects, so as to ensure sustainable human development that fully respects cultural diversity, taking into account their cultural values and identity;

"3. Stresses the importance of the question of interaction between culture and development, as a priority theme in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and the fact that it should be reflected in the structure and activities of the Organization;

"4. Encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to pursue its ongoing task of promoting throughout

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[1] Paris, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 1996.

[2] A/52/382.

the United Nations system a greater awareness of the crucial relationship between culture and development, taking into account the diversity of cultures;

"5. Takes note of the First Meeting of Ministers of Culture of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries,[3] held at Medellín, Colombia, on 4 and 5 September 1997, and welcomes the convening of the "Culture Meeting for the Coming Millennium" which will be held in 1999;

"6. Invites the Secretary-General to stimulate, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, further international debate on culture and development;

"7. Requests the Secretary-General, in the elaboration of the International Development Strategy for the next United Nations Development Decade, to include guidelines to promote culturally sensitive development."

3. At the 46th meeting, on 2 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Hans-Peter Glanzer (Austria), introduced and orally corrected a draft resolution (A/C.2/52/L.33), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.10.

4. At the same meeting, before the adoption of the resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Canada, China and Mexico (see A/C.2/52/SR.46).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.33, as orally corrected (see para. 7).

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.33, draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.10 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

## III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

7. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

### Cultural development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/187 of 8 December 1986, in which it proclaimed the period 1988-1997 the World Decade for Cultural Development, 46/158 of 19 December 1991, in which it requested the Secretary-General to cooperate with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in establishing an independent World Commission on Culture and Development, and expected the World Commission co submit its final report to the

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[3] See A/52/432.

General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and to the United Nations General Assembly no later than three years after it began its work, and 51/179 of 16 December 1996, concerning the report of the World Commission,

Taking note of the fact that public opinion throughout the world, as well as Governments and non-governmental organizations, has become much more sensitive to the need for better integration of the cultural dimension into the entire development process,

Recognizing that this awareness of the central importance of culture is, nevertheless, insufficiently present in development policy and practice,

Acknowledging with satisfaction the active participation of Member States, United Nations bodies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals in the implementation of projects of national, regional and interregional scope, aiming at the promotion of the objectives of the Decade, and in the work of the World Commission and its follow-up,

Taking note of the first meeting of Ministers of Culture of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Medellín, Colombia, on 4 and 5 September 1997,[4]

1. Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General on the progress of the World Decade for Cultural Development during the period 1994-1997;[5]

2. Invites all Member States, intergovernmental bodies and organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations:

(a) To ensure that the lessons and experiences gained and the momentum generated through the World Decade and the World Commission on Culture and Development are reflected in all their development strategies, as appropriate;

(b) To submit their comments to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the report of the World Commission on Culture and Development, entitled Our Creative Diversity;[6]

(c) To intensify their efforts to integrate cultural factors into their development programmes and projects, so as to ensure sustainable development that fully respects cultural diversity, taking into account their cultural values and identity;

3. Stresses the importance of the question of interaction between culture and development, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to accord priority to this theme in its work;

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[4] See A/52/432.

[5] A/52/382.

[6] Paris, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 1996.

4. Encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to pursue its ongoing task of promoting throughout the United Nations system a greater awareness of the crucial relationship between culture and development, taking into account the diversity of cultures;

5. Welcomes the convening in Stockholm in 1998 of an intergovernmental conference on cultural policies, organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, in the elaboration of the international development strategy for the next United Nations development decade, to include recommendations for the integration of the cultural dimension in development activities;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to include the outcome of the Stockholm conference in his report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session.

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